

**Subpart D—Family Investment Centers (FIC) Program**

**§ 964.300 General.**

The Family Investment Centers Program provides families living in public housing with better access to educational and employment opportunities by:

- (a) Developing facilities in or near public housing for training and support services;
- (b) Mobilizing public and private resources to expand and improve the delivery of such services;
- (c) Providing funding for such essential training and support services that cannot otherwise be funded; and
- (d) Improving the capacity of management to assess the training and service needs of families, coordinate the provision of training and services that meet such needs, and ensure the long-term provision of such training and services. FIC provides funding to HAs to access educational, housing, or other social service programs to assist public housing residents toward self-sufficiency.

**§ 964.305 Eligibility.**

- (a) *Public Housing Authorities.* HAs may apply to establish one or more FICs for more than one public housing development.
- (b) *FIC Activities.* Activities that may be funded and carried out by eligible HAs, as defined in § 964.305(a) and § 964.310(a) may include:
  - (1) The renovation, conversion, or combination of vacant dwelling units in a HA development to create common areas to accommodate the provision of supportive services;
  - (2) The renovation of existing common areas in a HA development to accommodate the provision of supportive services;
  - (3) The acquisition, construction or renovation of facilities located near the premises of one or more HA developments to accommodate the provision of supportive services;
  - (4) The provision of not more than 15 percent of the total cost of supportive services (which may be provided directly to eligible residents by the HA or by contract or lease through other

appropriate agencies or providers), but only if the HA demonstrates that:

- (i) The supportive services are appropriate to improve the access of eligible residents to employment and educational opportunities; and
- (ii) The HA has made diligent efforts to use or obtain other available resources to fund or provide such services; and
- (5) The employment of service coordinators.
- (c) *Follow up.* A HA must demonstrate a firm commitment of assistance from one or more sources ensuring that supportive services will be provided for not less than one year following the completion of activities.
- (d) *Environmental Review.* Any environmental impact regarding eligible activities will be addressed through an environmental review of that activity as required by 24 CFR part 50, including the applicable related laws and authorities under § 50.4, to be completed by HUD, to ensure that any environmental impact will be addressed before assistance is provided to the HA. Grantees will be expected to adhere to all assurances applicable to environmental concerns.

**§ 964.308 Supportive services requirements.**

HAs shall provide new or significantly expanded services essential to providing families in public housing with better access to educational and employment opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency and independence. HAs applying for funds to provide supportive services must demonstrate that the services will be provided at a higher level than currently provided. Supportive services may include:

- (a) Child care, of a type that provides sufficient hours of operation and serves appropriate ages as needed to facilitate parental access to education and job opportunities;
- (b) Employment training and counseling (e.g., job training, preparation and counseling, job development and placement, and follow-up assistance after job placement);
- (c) Computer skills training;
- (d) Education (e.g., remedial education, literacy training, completion of secondary or post-secondary education,

and assistance in the attainment of certificates of high school equivalency);

(e) Business entrepreneurial training and counseling;

(f) Transportation, as necessary to enable any participating family member to receive available services or to commute to his or her place of employment;

(g) Personal welfare (e.g., substance/alcohol abuse treatment and counseling, self-development counseling, etc.);

(h) Supportive Health Care Services (e.g., outreach and referral services); and

(i) Any other services and resources, including case management, that are determined to be appropriate in assisting eligible residents.

#### **§ 964.310 Audit/compliance requirements.**

HAs cannot have serious unaddressed, outstanding Inspector General audit findings or fair housing and equal opportunity monitoring review findings or Field Office management review findings. In addition, the HA must be in compliance with civil rights laws and equal opportunity requirements. A HA will be considered to be in compliance if:

(a) As a result of formal administrative proceedings, there are no outstanding findings of noncompliance with civil rights laws unless the HA is operating in compliance with a HUD-approved compliance agreement designed to correct the area(s) of noncompliance;

(b) There is no adjudication of a civil rights violation in a civil action brought against it by a private individual, unless the HA demonstrates that it is operating in compliance with a court order, or implementing a HUD-approved resident selection and assignment plan or compliance agreement, designed to correct the area(s) of noncompliance;

(c) There is no deferral of Federal funding based upon civil rights violations;

(d) HUD has not deferred application processing by HUD under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Attorney General's Guidelines (28 CFR 50.3)

and HUD's Title VI regulations (24 CFR 1.8) and procedures (HUD Handbook 8040.1) [HAs only] or under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and HUD regulations (24 CFR 8.57) [HAs and IHAs];

(e) There is no pending civil rights suit brought against the HA by the Department of Justice; and

(f) There is no unresolved charge of discrimination against the HA issued by the Secretary under Section 810(g) of the Fair Housing Act, as implemented by 24 CFR 103.400.

#### **§ 964.315 HAs role in activities under this part.**

The HAs shall develop a process that assures that RC/RMC representatives and residents are fully briefed and have an opportunity to comment on the proposed content of the HA's application for funding. The HA shall give full and fair consideration to the comments and concerns of the residents. The process shall include:

(a) Informing residents of the selected developments regarding the preparation of the application, and providing for residents to assist in the development of the application.

(b) Once a draft application has been prepared, the HA shall make a copy available for reading in the management office; provide copies of the draft to any resident organization representing the residents of the development(s) involved; and provide adequate opportunity for comment by the residents of the development and their representative organizations prior to making the application final.

(c) After HUD approval of a grant, notify the duly elected resident organization and if none exists, notify the residents of the development of the approval of the grant; provide notification of the availability of the HUD-approved implementation schedule in the management office for reading; and develop a system to facilitate a regular resident role in all aspects of program implementation.